

TABLE A:
Leading Causes of Death* by Age Group
North Carolina Residents, 2000

ALL AGES

Rank	Cause	Number
1	Heart disease	19,649
2	Cancer	15,747
3	Cerebrovascular disease	5,692
4	Chronic lower respiratory diseases	3,695
5	Diabetes mellitus.....	2,078
6	Pneumonia & influenza	1,936
7	Other unintentional injuries	1,833
8	Alzheimer's disease	1,725
9	Motor vehicle injuries	1,635
10	Nephritis, nephrotic syndrome, nephrosis	1,311
	All other causes (Residual)	16,431
	Total Deaths - All Causes	71,732

INFANTS (AGE <1)

Rank	Cause	Number
1	Short gestation – low birthweight	221
2	Congenital anomalies (birth defects)	176
3	SIDS	95
4	Maternal complications	78
5	Respiratory distress	44
6	Complications of placenta	40
7	Atelectasis	33
8	Bacterial sepsis	27
9	Neonatal hemorrhage	23
10	Diseases of the Circulatory System	22
	Intra hypoxia	22
	All other causes (Residual)	253
	Total Deaths - All Causes	1,034

1 - 4 YEARS

Rank	Cause	Number
1	Other unintentional injuries	36
2	Motor vehicle injuries	24
3	Congenital anomalies (birth defects)	13
4	Homicide	9
5	Cancer	6
6	In situ neoplasms	5
7	Conditions originating in the perinatal period	4
	Heart disease	4
9	Anemias	3
	Chronic lower respiratory diseases	3
	All other causes (Residual)	37
	Total Deaths - All Causes	144

5 - 14 YEARS

Rank	Cause	Number
1	Motor vehicle injuries	64
2	Other unintentional injuries	30
3	Cancer	24
4	Suicide	12
5	Homicide	10
6	Congenital anomalies (birth defects)	8
7	Heart disease	5
8	Chronic lower respiratory diseases	3
	In situ neoplasms	3
10	(six causes tied for tenth)	2
	All other causes (Residual)	53
	Total Deaths - All Causes	224

*Leading causes of death are generated from a list of 51 causes of death categories developed by the National Center for Health Statistics to promote comparability in analyses of mortality. For deaths under one year of age, a list of 72 causes of death was used. See Appendices for the ICD-10 codes for these lists of causes.

TABLE A: (cont.)
Leading Causes of Death* by Age Group
North Carolina Residents, 2000

15 -24 YEARS

Rank	Cause	Number
1	Motor vehicle injuries	350
2	Homicide	171
3	Suicide	116
4	Other unintentional injuries	93
5	Cancer	38
6	Heart disease	31
7	Congenital anomalies (birth defects)	17
8	Chronic lower respiratory diseases	10
9	HIV disease.....	7
	Pregnancy, childbirth, and the puerperium	7
	All other causes (Residual)	114
Total Deaths - All Causes		954

25 - 44 YEARS

Rank	Cause	Number
1	Cancer	586
2	Motor vehicle injuries	570
3	Heart disease	522
4	Other unintentional injuries	439
5	Suicide	404
6	Homicide	310
7	HIV disease	295
8	Cerebrovascular disease	104
9	Chronic liver disease & cirrhosis	100
10	Diabetes mellitus	75
	All other causes (Residual)	802
Total Deaths - All Causes		4,207

45 - 64 YEARS

Rank	Cause	Number
1	Cancer	4,363
2	Heart disease	3,287
3	Cerebrovascular disease	604
4	Chronic lower respiratory diseases	524
5	Diabetes mellitus.....	502
6	Chronic liver disease & cirrhosis	383
7	Other unintentional injuries	374
8	Motor vehicle injuries	342
9	Suicide.....	273
10	Nephritis, nephrotic syndrome, nephrosis ..	192
	All other causes (Residual)	2,462
Total Deaths - All Causes		13,306

AGES 65 & OVER

Rank	Cause	Number
1	Heart disease	15,784
2	Cancer	10,728
3	Cerebrovascular disease	4,976
4	Chronic lower respiratory diseases	3,118
5	Alzheimer's disease.....	1,708
6	Pneumonia & influenza	1,696
7	Diabetes mellitus	1,497
8	Nephritis, nephrotic syndrome, nephrosis ..	1,069
9	Other unintentional injuries	849
10	Septicemia	815
	All other causes (Residual)	9,623
Total Deaths - All Causes		51,863

* Leading causes of death are generated from a list of 51 causes of death categories developed by the National Center for Health Statistics to promote comparability in analyses of mortality. For deaths under one year of age, a list of 72 causes of death was used. See Appendices for the ICD-10 codes for these lists of causes.

TABLE B:
Leading Causes of Death* by Race
North Carolina Residents, 2000

WHITE			BLACK		
Rank	Cause	Number	Rank	Cause	Number
1	Heart disease	15,419	1	Heart disease	4,034
2	Cancer	12,375	2	Cancer	3,204
3	Cerebrovascular disease	4,401	3	Cerebrovascular disease	1,250
4	Chronic lower respiratory diseases	3,244	4	Diabetes mellitus	735
5	Pneumonia & influenza	1,596	5	Nephritis, nephrotic syndrome, nephrosis ..	474
6	Alzheimer's disease	1,507	6	Chronic lower respiratory disease.....	419
7	Other unintentional injuries	1,428	7	Motor vehicle injuries	381
8	Diabetes mellitus.....	1,305	8	Other unintentional injuries	379
9	Motor vehicle injuries	1,197	9	HIV disease	371
10	Suicide	836	10	Homicide	335
All other causes (Residual)			All other causes (Residual)		
Total Deaths - All Causes			Total Deaths - All Causes		
55,241			15,694		

AMERICAN INDIAN

Rank	Cause	Number
1	Heart disease	165
2	Cancer	115
3	Motor vehicle injuries	38
4	Cerebrovascular disease	32
	Diabetes mellitus	32
6	Chronic lower respiratory diseases	26
7	Homicide	24
8	Other unintentional injuries	16
9	Chronic liver disease	15
	Pneumonia & influenza	15
All other causes (Residual)		
Total Deaths - All Causes		
601		

*Racial group totals will not add up to overall total because deaths occurring among other races are not included here. Caution should be taken when comparing the number of deaths across racial groupings. Population size varies considerably from one racial group to another. The number of deaths for each group is to a large extent a reflection of that population size.

TABLE C:
Leading Causes of Death by Sex
North Carolina Residents, 2000

FEMALE			MALE		
Rank	Cause	Number	Rank	Cause	Number
1	Heart disease	10,031	1	Heart disease	9,618
2	Cancer	7,283	2	Cancer	8,464
3	Cerebrovascular disease	3,545	3	Cerebrovascular disease	2,147
4	Chronic lower respiratory diseases	1,764	4	Chronic lower respiratory diseases	1,931
5	Alzheimer's disease	1,296	5	Motor vehicle injuries	1,151
6	Diabetes mellitus.....	1,164	6	Other unintentional injuries	1,148
7	Pneumonia & influenza	1,155	7	Diabetes mellitus	914
8	Nephritis, nephrotic syndrome, nephrosis ...	715	8	Pneumonia & influenza	781
9	Other unintentional injuries	685	9	Suicide	735
10	Septicemia	619	10	Nephritis, nephrotic syndrome, nephrosis...	596
	All other causes (Residual)	8,248		All other causes (Residual)	7,742
Total Deaths - All Causes		36,505	Total Deaths - All Causes		35,227

TABLE D:
Leading Causes of Death by Hispanicity
North Carolina Residents, 2000

HISPANIC			NON-HISPANIC		
Rank	Cause	Number	Rank	Cause	Number
1	Motor vehicle injuries	126	1	Heart disease	19,612
2	Homicide	54	2	Cancer	15,704
3	Cancer	43	3	Cerebrovascular disease	5,681
4	Other unintentional injuries	38	4	Chronic lower respiratory diseases	3,692
5	Heart disease	37	5	Diabetes mellitus	2,067
6	Conditions originating in the perinatal region ...	24	6	Pneumonia & influenza	1,931
7	Congenital anomalies	16	7	Other unintentional injuries	1,795
8	Cerebrovascular disease	11	8	Alzheimer's disease	1,724
	Diabetes mellitus.....	11	9	Motor vehicle injuries	1,509
	Suicide	11	10	Nephritis, nephrotic syndrome, nephrosis ...	1,309
	All other causes (Residual)	85		All other causes (Residual)	16,252
Total Deaths - All Causes		456	Total Deaths - All Causes		71,276

Table E:
Mortality Statistics Summary for 2000
All North Carolina Residents*

Leading Causes of Death	Number of Deaths 2000	Death Rate 2000
Total Heart Disease	19,649	243.0
Cerebrovascular Disease	5,692	70.4
Atherosclerosis	385	4.8
Total Cancer	15,747	194.8
Lip, Oral Cavity, & Pharynx	224	2.8
Stomach	307	3.8
Colon, Rectum, & Anus	1,558	19.3
Liver	314	3.9
Pancreas	821	10.2
Larynx	125	1.5
Trachea, Bronchus, & Lung	4,870	60.2
Malignant Melanoma of Skin	245	3.0
Bladder	276	3.4
Brain	365	4.5
Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma	548	6.8
Leukemia	563	7.0
HIV Disease	462	5.7
Septicemia	1,047	12.9
Diabetes Mellitus	2,078	25.7
Pneumonia & Influenza	1,936	23.9
Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	3,695	45.7
Chronic Liver Disease & Cirrhosis	784	9.7
Nephritis, Nephrotic Syndrome, & Nephrosis	1,311	16.2
Motor Vehicle Injuries	1,635	20.2
All Other Unintentional Injuries	1,833	22.7
Suicide	952	11.8
Homicide	652	8.1
Alzheimer's Disease	1,725	21.3
Total Deaths – All Causes	71,732	887.2

Table F:
Sex-Specific Mortality Statistics Summary for 2000
North Carolina Male and Female Residents*

Cause of Death	Number of Deaths 2000	Death Rate* 2000
Cancer		
Breast	1,079	25.9
Cervix Uteri	128	3.1
Ovary	373	9.0
Prostate	969	24.7

Note: All death rates are per 100,000 population. The death rates in Table E cannot be compared to those in Table F because the denominators are sex-specific. Therefore, in ranking the causes of death – for example, in ranking the leading cancer sites – one must use the observed numbers of deaths. Breast cancer includes a very few deaths to males, while the denominator of the rate is the female population, the primary population at risk.

* See Appendices for Cause of Death codes.